

## Neighborhood and Community Engagement Commission Tuesday, July 24, 2012 DRAFT Meeting Notes

Minneapolis Central Library

NCEC member attendees: Latrell Beamon, Kenneth Brown, Doron Clark, Denis Houle, Ishmael Israel, Henry Jimenez, Gregg Massey, Marcea Mariani, Jeffrey Martin, Kenya McKnight, Saciido Shaie, Jeff Strand, Carol Pass. NCEC members absent: Ali Warsame, Tessa Wetjen and Maria Sarabia. Commission staff: David Rubedor, Howard Blin, Ahmed Muhumud, Mariano Espinoza and Cheyenne Erickson.

#### **Agenda Item** Content

## 1.Introduction, Action(s):

& agenda

(Action)

- Consensus to approve July agenda.
- Consensus to approve June 26, 2012 meeting notes, with one correction.

#### 2.

## Introduction of New Members

(Informational)

## **Summary:**

- Each new NCEC member introduced themselves and spoke about their backgrounds.
- Staff explained the 2012 NCEC work plan.

### 3. NRP Policy **Board Report** (Action)

#### **Summary:**

- Appointments to the NRP Policy Board: Staff reviewed the background of the NRP Policy Board and explained that the old NRP Policy Board sunsetted last year, the new Policy Board oversees the NRP program. Six neighborhoods have yet to complete a Phase II plan. The Policy Board is also responsible for approving plan modifications over \$25,000 and will approve the new Neighborhood Priority Plans (NPP). The meetings have not been happening on a monthly basis, however, when neighborhoods begin to submit NPP's the board will be meeting on a monthly basis, most likely in September.
- The Policy Board is multi-jurisdictional and has representatives from the Mayor, City Council, School Board, Park Board, Hennepin County, State Representative, Senate Representative and 4 Neighborhood representatives.
- So far in 2012 the NRP Policy Board has approved 1 NRP Phase II plan, accepted a Phase I review, revised the bylaws and newsletter policy and for the first time, selected a neighborhood representative to serve as the Chair of the Board.

**Action(s):** The commission held a vote to determine the 4 neighborhood representatives on the Policy Board, 5 Commissions expressed interest (Mariani, Strand, McKnight, Pass and Shaie), and the out come of the vote was: Strand, McKnight, Pass and Shaie.

## 4. Establish a Grievance Committee (Action)

#### Summary:

Mr. Peter Rickmyer has appealed a response from the NCR Director to a grievance against the Jordan Area Community Council. This grievance and appeal is separate from the grievance appeal the NCEC reviewed in May.

- In the event of such an appeal, the guidelines of the Community Participation Program call for the NCEC to convene a committee to review the grievance.
- The grievance involves compliance with the notification requirements of Americans with Disabilities Act by the Jordan Area Community Council.

**Action(s):** The commission reached consensus to approve Commissioners Massey, Israel and Martin to serve on the Grievance Committee.

## **5. NCR Report** (Informational)

#### **Summary:**

- National Night Out: The department is coordinating outreach efforts and planning to visit NNO events and pass out information about the department and other resources the NCEC is welcome to attend and visit NNO events with NCR staff.
- Voter Engagement: The department is looking to increase voter turnout numbers in the City as a measure of engagement. NCR staff member Lance Knuckles is working on Get Out the Vote efforts and looking at how the department can work with neighborhood and community organizations on the importance of voting.
- Results Minneapolis: The department is presenting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Results Minneapolis report on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:15am in Room 132 City Hall; NCEC members are welcome to attend.
- Upcoming City Council Actions: The department will be presenting two items at the next City Council Committee of the Whole meeting, the first is a partnership expansion for the NUSA 2013 conference to include the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board as a partner and the second is the final report of the NRP administration waterfall of funds.

#### **Commissioner Comments:**

- Will the NRP dollars be evenly distributed?
  - The neighborhoods that lost money from the City Council action that was taken in December of 2010 will get the roll over funds first.
- How does that work for neighborhoods that spent their funds?
  - Neighborhoods will still get their regular allocation, but not the waterfall fund money.
- How are neighborhoods that are not in compliance with the CPP guidelines tracked and what happens to them.
  - Currently no neighborhoods are out of compliance. NCR takes a proactive approach to ensure that neighborhoods stay in compliance. There may be some neighborhoods that could be doing a better job and NCR is working with them.
- Can we get an update of CPP expenditures for the 2011 and 2012-2013 cycles at the August meeting?

# 6. Latino Engagement Task Force (Discussion)

#### **Summary:**

- Mariano Espinosa, Spanish Access and Outreach Specialist for the department reviewed the Dream Act RCA and explained that this is was an important action for the Latino community in Minneapolis. He also explained how the department worked with Communications and the Intergovernmental Relations Departments to determine how to respond to the communities needs.
- Mariano also reviewed the work of the Latino Engagement Task
  Force and explained that they are in the process of identifying
  goals and objectives of the group. They are meeting with City
  department heads to be better prepared to work with the City on
  the efforts in the Latino Community.

#### **Commissioner Comments:**

- This was a large effort that was done in a matter of weeks, and it is an example of what can motivate us to do work we care about.
- The circle diagram is good to work towards. It is important to be aware of the fact that if we don't move ahead there are consequences of not supporting their improvements and education. Many people have frustrations because they can't get a job.
- This was a great effort; does the Dream Act just affect the Latino Community?
  - The Latino Community is affected the most but they are not the only ones who are affected.
- Very impressed with the amount of work that Mariano has done during his short time at the City. So many other cities aren't even starting anything; this is an issue that affects everyone. Glad to know Mariano and proud to be a member of the LETF.
- It is important to show dramatic disparities to rectify the situation; the NCEC should work with Access & Outreach, neighborhoods to make improvements.

## 7. Boards and Commissions Diversity Survey (Discussion)

#### **Summary:**

 Director Rubedor reviewed the survey results. NCR is charged to work on Community Engagement in a broad sense and includes work on other boards and commissions of the City to achieve the goal to make the process simple and that the boards and commissions are representative of City residents.

#### **Commissioner Comments:**

- There are good examples of exemplary boards and commissions are there any requirements that would hinder someone from serving?
  - Yes, there could be professional requirements that an applicant would have to qualify for.
- Suggest that NCR staff look at any eligibility requirements that may no longer be needed and continue to do outreach to neighborhoods about leadership.
- This report is a lot to chew on. Excited to see recommendation #5 to help open opportunities for people to serve. People don't know where to start.

- Some boards and commissions have heavy lifting, agrees with term limits but it doesn't always work or you might not always have the people you need to get the work done.
- Concerned with building involvement all the way up. NCEC should look at being supportive of peoples 1<sup>st</sup> interaction to neighborhood organizations.
- Do you know how much you use the internet for recruitment?
  - The internet is used quite heavily; however, there are hard copies of everything available.
- Everyone agrees to diversify, neighborhood organizations are hard to diversify. People are interested but they need people to reach out and contact them to ask them to apply.
- City needs to have white privilege training. The Harrison neighborhood is a good example of that, neighborhoods need training too.
- For some, when you live in poverty, being involved in your community is the furthest thing from your mind.
- Who are you connecting with? Organizations, newspapers? Is there a way to mandate a certain number of renters or people of color?
- Recommend that at the August meeting a work group is set up.

## 8. Task Force Reports

(Discussion)

#### A. One Minneapolis Task Force:

- Commissioner Wetjen is the facilitator of the task force; other members include Commissioners Brown and Strand.
- Staff explained the One Minneapolis Fund, \$48,000 is available for the program from the American Indian Memorandum of Understanding. In total there will be \$62,000 for cultural organizations to apply for.
- The task force is preparing RFPs to submit applications for funding and will bring back information at the August meeting for endorsement of the RFP process.

#### **B. Bylaws Task Force:**

- Commissioner Brown is the Facilitator of the task force; other members include Commissioners Pass, Mariani and Strand.
- A consultant is working with the group on the bylaws revisions to reflect the City Council directive.

**Action(s):** The commission reached consensus to add Commissioner Marcea Mariani as a member for the One Minneapolis Task Force.

## 9. Commissioner Open Forum

No discussion was held.

#### Adjourn